LINDA LINGLE



MARK J. BENNETT ATTORNEY GENERAL

RUSSELL A. SUZUKI FIRST DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 425 QUEEN STREET

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 (808) 586-1500

Date:

July 30, 2010

To:

Legislative Federal Economic Stimulus Program

Oversight Commission

From:

Department of the Attorney General

Subject:

ARRA Program

Office of Child Support Enforcement,

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Project

Hawaii Child Support Enforcement Agency

As requested by the Commission's letter dated June 22, 2010, the Department of the Attorney General provides the following information:

## (1) (a) A brief project description

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides incentive funds to state child support enforcement agencies that perform well in certain categories established by DHHS. In the past, DHHS additionally provided two dollars of matching funds for every dollar of incentive funds that a state earned and spent, but at the end of federal fiscal year 2006-2007, Congress eliminated the additional matching funds. The present ARRA program temporarily restores the matching funds. These ARRA matching funds can be used for any legitimate expenditure to support the state child support enforcement program.

## (1) (b) Information on the amount of funds secured, encumbered, and/or expended to date

As of June 30, 2010:

Secured:

\$1,708,152.37

Encumbered: \$1,135,636.30

Expended:

\$1,708,152.37

(1) (c) Information on any competitive grants for the Department has applied, lost, and/or obtained and, if applicable, any explanation as to the reason for the failure to secure such grants

None. No other ARRA grants programs were available for child support enforcement services.

(1) (d) Information on any funds that have been returned to the federal government, and, if so, why

No funds have been returned to the federal government.

(2) Information on whether the Department's plans for ARRA funded projects are available on the State's ARRA website, and if not, why and/or when such information will be made available

The Department's plans for ARRA funded projects are available on the State's ARRA website.

(3) Information on any problems or concerns the Department has encountered in securing and/or expending ARRA funds or with satisfying any reporting requirements

The Office of Management and Budget issued its Updated Implementing Guidance for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 approximately two months after Congress passed the ARRA. Because this guidance contained essential information regarding the requirements of this program, CSEA was unable to spend ARRA funds during the two-month period.